

Recycled Water Task Force Public Discussion Session

October 10, 2002
Los Angeles, CA

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Today's presentation

- Charges
- Issues
- Progress made
- Inputs and questions

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Public Information, Education and Outreach

- Charge
 - ◆ Outreach to the public about recycled water:
 - ◆ Address public perception, acceptance, education, social equity issues
 - ◆ Outreach to decision makers and others on behalf of the Task Force:
 - ◆ Identify and target entities to receive info from the Task Force
 - ◆ Seek ways to involve those targeted in our process

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Opportunity

- Identify ways to:
 - ◆ Prevent opposition from forming
 - ◆ Learn what the public/dec. mkr. issues are
 - ◆ Communicate effectively
 - ◆ Listen effectively
 - ◆ Involve public early
 - ◆ Incorporate public issues within
 - ◆ Champion use of recycled water

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Inputs for Work Group

- Comments from the Task Force meetings
- Work group meetings
- Email communications
- Literature search – summary underway

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Workgroup Guidelines

- Identify public participation practices that have worked successfully
- Consider other outreach efforts, incorporate where applicable
 - ◆ Statewide water conservation program
 - ◆ Anti-smoking
- Be sensitive to public views in general (manipulation by politicians)

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More Guidelines

- Public participation process – not just public information
 - ◆ Project assessment
 - ◆ Project decision making
- Public education process to empower – not to simply sway
 - ◆ Info is technical – make understandable

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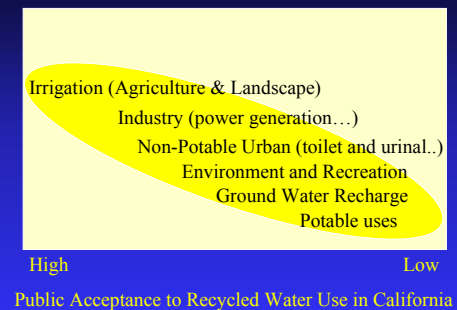
More Guidelines still . . .

- Role of the public – Clear, upfront and continuous communications
- Choice is a key ingredient in project planning and design

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White paper is evolving . . .

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- Task Force reduce/remove impediments
- Public/decision maker issues – may be impediment
 - ◆ Perception, facts, beliefs, values
 - ◆ Complicated sometimes
- Lots of information on horizon – learn from the successes

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Values based decision making

- ◆ The public is capable of making wise and prudent decisions
- ◆ Public involvement throughout the process
- ◆ Full range of interested and affected parties should be included
- ◆ Identify common interests and full range of options
- ◆ Approach in an integrated manner
- ◆ Go slow before you know—precautionary approach
- ◆ Transparency in evaluation process and decision making—needed resources are available.
- ◆ Project analysis (science, economics, environmental and social impacts) should be robust
- ◆ The project is responsive to the public process

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Public Policy and Politics

- Policy Hurdles
 - ◆ State support for water recycling ?
 - ◆ Local health offices and other regulatory agencies roles?
 - ◆ City and county planning agencies
- Political Hurdles
 - ◆ “Top-Down” state support for recycling
 - ◆ Homegrown local support
 - ◆ Coordinate, State and local planning processes
 - ◆ Elected officials and their role
 - ◆ Politics of water
 - ◆ Recycled water... option in the mix of available options
 - ◆ Media and politicians

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Your questions? Comments?
Input?

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